

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit for driving a useful signal having:
 - (a) at least one amplifier circuit ~~(3a, 3b)~~ with low output impedance for the signal amplification of the useful signal;
 - (b) a protection impedance ~~(9a, 9b)~~ respectively connected downstream of the amplifier circuit ~~(3a, 3b)~~ and serving to protect the amplifier circuit ~~(3a, 3b)~~;
~~characterized in that wherein~~
 - (c) provision is respectively made of a feedback circuit ~~(14a, 14b)~~ for the frequency-dependent signal feedback of the useful signal amplified by the amplifier circuit ~~(3a, 3b)~~.
2. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the amplifier circuit ~~(3a, 3b)~~ is an operational amplifier having an inverting signal input ~~(5a, 5b)~~, a noninverting signal input ~~(4a, 4b)~~ and a signal output ~~(7a, 7b)~~.
3. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the protection impedance ~~(9a, 9b)~~ is connected between the signal output ~~(7a, 7b)~~ of the operational amplifier ~~(3a, 3b)~~ and a signal line connection ~~(11a, 11b)~~ for the connection of a signal line.
4. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to Claim 3, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the signal line is a telephone line for connecting a telephone to the driver circuit ~~(1)~~.
5. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the driver circuit ~~(1)~~ is of differential construction and has two symmetrically constructed amplifier circuits ~~(3a, 3b)~~, two symmetrical protection impedances ~~(9a, 9b)~~ and two symmetrically constructed feedback circuits ~~(14a, 14b)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the signal feedback circuit (14a, 14b) respectively has a capacitor (15a, 15b), which is connected between the signal output (7a, 7b) of the operational amplifier (3a, 3b) and a signal input (5a, 5b) of the operational amplifier (3a, 3b), and a resistor (16a, 16b), which is connected between the signal line connection (11a, 11b) and the signal input (5a, 5b) of the operational amplifier (3a, 3b).
7. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the signal feedback circuit (14a, 14b) feeds back high-frequency signal components of the useful signal amplified by the amplifier circuit (3a, 3b) to the signal input (5a, 5b) of the amplifier circuit (3a, 3b) to a greater extent than low-frequency signal components of the useful signal amplified by the amplifier circuit (3a, 3b), so that the output impedance of the driver circuit (3a, 3b) is reduced in a specific first frequency range up to a first limiting frequency (f_{g1}) which lies above the second limiting frequency (f_{g2}) of the useful signal.
8. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to Claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first frequency range comprises of a {sic} second frequency range provided for the transmission of the useful signal.
9. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second frequency range is a voice signal band for the transmission of a telephone voice signal.
10. (Currently Amended) Driver circuit according to Claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second limiting frequency (f_{g2}) of the second frequency range is about 4 kHz.